

WH

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 11, 1978

OLC #78-1401/6

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In the course of recent meetings in the White House with Members of Congress, a request was made that the Administration provide an evaluation of the military balance in the Middle East and the potential effect of the proposed sales of additional aircraft to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Background data was also requested.

At this time, I am enclosing a classified memorandum representing the considered judgment of the U.S. Intelligence Community on "U.S. Aircraft and the Middle East Military Balance." Also appended to this paper is an updated classified summary of background data, drawn from the latest National Intelligence Estimate on the Middle East Military Balance.

I hope you will find this information useful in forming your own evaluation of the proposed aircraft sale. If I can be of any further assistance, or if you have any additional questions on this matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Frank Moore
Assistant to the President
for Congressional Liaison

The Honorable Clement J. Zablocki
Chairman
International Relations Committee
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515